

**ADVANCED COMMUNICATION SERIES**  
**HUMOROUSLY SPEAKING**

**Assignment #1:**  
**WARM UP YOUR AUDIENCE**

**Objectives**

- Prepare a speech that opens with a humorous story.
- Personalize the story.
- Delivery the story smoothly and effectively.
- TIME : 5 to 7 minutes

**Note to the Evaluator**

The purpose of this project is for the speaker to present a five- to seven- minute speech that begins with a humorous story. The story must be related to the speech topic and appropriate for the audience. The story may be based on an actual personal experience the speaker has had or on a story from another source. The speaker is to personalize the story. In addition to your oral evaluation, please give written responses to the questions below.

**Evaluation Guide**

1. How well did the opening story relate to the speech topic?
2. Was the story appropriate for the audience?
3. Was the story amusing to you?
4. Did the story attract and keep your attention?
5. How did the speaker's delivery of the story help or hinder the story's impact on you?
6. How could the speaker improve the story's delivery? Comment on the setup, delivery, and pause.
7. How comfortable and confident did the speaker appear to be while telling the story?
8. Was the speech body organized clearly and logically?
9. What could the speaker do to improve the speech?

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**Assignment #2:**  
**LEAVE THEM WITH A SMILE**

**Objectives**

- Prepare a serious speech that opens and closes with humorous stories.
- Prepare a closing story that reemphasizes the speech's main point.
- Deliver the stories smoothly and effectively.
- TIME : 5 to 7 minutes

**Note to the Evaluator**

The purpose of this project is for the speaker to present a five to seven minute speech that begins with a humorous story and ends with a humorous story. The opening story should tie into the subject and the closing story should re-emphasize the main point of the speech. The stories may be based on actual personal experiences the speaker has had or on stories from other sources. The speaker is to personalize the stories. In addition to your oral evaluation, please give written responses to the questions below.

**Evaluation Guide**

1. How well did the opening story relate to the speech topic?
2. How well did the closing story reemphasize the speech's main point?
3. How appropriate were both stories for the audience?
4. How amusing were both stories to you?
5. How effectively did the closing story end the speech?
6. How comfortable and confident did the speaker appear while telling both stories?
7. How well did the speaker deliver the set-ups, pauses before the punch lines, punch lines, punch words, and the ending pauses for both stories?

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**Assignment #3:**  
**MAKE THEM LAUGH**

**Objectives**

- Prepare a speech that opens and closes with humorous stories.
- Include jokes in the speech body to illustrate points or maintain audience interest.
- Deliver the jokes and stories smoothly and effectively.
- TIME : 5 to 7 minutes

**Note to the Evaluator**

The purpose of this project is for the speaker to present a five- to seven- minute speech that begins and ends with a humorous story and uses several jokes in the speech body. The humorous opening story should tie into the speech subject, and the humorous closing story should reemphasize the speech's main point. The jokes in the speech body should illustrate or emphasize points and/or break up any tedious or complex parts of the speech. In addition to your oral evaluation, please give written responses to the questions below.

**Evaluation Guide**

1. How well did the opening story relate to the speech topic?
2. How well did the closing story reemphasize the speech's main point?
3. How well did the jokes illustrate or emphasize the speaker's points?
4. If the speech had any tedious or complex parts, were jokes used to break them up? If so, how effective were the jokes at doing so?
5. How smooth were the transitions between the jokes and the speech body?
6. How comfortable and confident did the speaker appear while telling the stories and jokes?
7. How well did the speaker deliver the set-ups, pauses before the punch lines, punch lines, punch words, and the ending pauses for the stories and jokes?
8. Were the stories and jokes appropriate? Were they amusing to you?

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**Assignment #4:**  
**KEEP THEM LAUGHING**

**Objectives**

- Prepare a speech that opens with a self-deprecating joke.
- String together two or three related jokes in the speech body.
- Close the speech with a humorous story.
- TIME : 5 to 7 minutes

**Note to the Evaluator**

The purpose of this project is for the speaker to present a five-to-seven minute speech that begins with a self-deprecating joke, includes at least two sets of jokes in the speech body, with each set composed of several jokes, and ends with a humorous story. The jokes in the speech body should illustrate or emphasize points or break up any tedious or complex parts of the speech. The closing story should re-emphasize the speech's main point. In addition to your oral evaluation, please give written responses to the questions below.

**Evaluation Guide**

1. How effective was the opening joke in breaking the ice with the audience?
2. How well did the jokes illustrate or emphasize the speaker's points?
3. How well was each set of jokes in the speech body tied together?
4. If any parts of the speech were tedious or complex, were jokes used to break them up? If so, did the jokes succeed in doing so?
5. How smooth were the transitions between the jokes and the speech body?
6. How well did the closing story reemphasize the speech's main point?
7. How comfortable and confident did the speaker appear while telling the jokes and story?
8. Were the story and jokes amusing to you? If not, why?

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**Assignment #5:**  
**THE HUMOROUS SPEECH**

**Objectives**

- Use exaggeration to tell a humorous story.
- Entertain the audience.
- Effectively use body language and voice to enhance the story.
- TIME : 5 to 7 minutes

**Note to the Evaluator:**

The purpose of this project is for the speaker to present a five-to-seven minute humorous speech. The speech's primary purpose is to entertain, while a secondary purpose is to make a point. The speech should be based on one theme or subject, with all humorous stories and/or jokes related to that subject. The humour should come from exaggeration. The speaker is to use body language and voice to enhance the speech. In addition to your oral evaluation, please give written responses to the questions below.

**Evaluation Guide**

1. What indicated to you that the audience was entertained?
2. What made the speech humorous?
3. How well did the jokes/ stories fit the theme of the speech?
4. Did any of the stories/ jokes seem awkward to you? Which ones? Why?
5. How did the speaker's body language and vocal variety add impact to the speech?
6. How well did the speaker tie stories/ jokes together? Were transitions smooth?
7. What could the speaker have done to improve the presentation?